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ABSTRACT

In the counseling profession, women constitute the majority of clients and practitioners. Given this situation, two questions arise concerning counselor preparation literature: (1) To what extent have women authored counselor preparation literature? (2) To what degree has this literature considered gender? In order to establish a context for specific gender issues, this study provides a historical grounding for dialogue on gender issues in counseling. The context was set by examining women's authorship rates in volumes 0-32 of the journal "Counselor Education and Supervision" (CES). Articles that dealt specifically with gender issues were also analyzed. Analysis showed that women wrote 18 percent of the articles and that 4 percent of the articles addressed gender. Results indicated a significant increase over time in women's authorship of CES articles. These rates increased even though the total number of articles published per issue dropped. However, there was no significant rise in the appearance of gender articles since the 1970s, suggesting a disturbing gap in counselor preparation research. It is argued that a greater focus on gender issues in counselor training and supervision is necessary if counselors are to remain an efficacious source of mental health services. (RJM)

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Gender and the Counselor Preparation Literature:

Issues of Authorship and Content

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Introduction

In Western professional fields, scholarly literature serves as the basis for both theory and pragmatics. In the field of counseling, women constitute the majority of clients and practitioners. Given this situation, two questions arise concerning the counselor preparation literature: (a) To what extent have women authored this literature?, and (b) How much has this literature considered issues of gender? Such questions are prerequisite to any discussion on specific issues concerning gender and counseling. These questions are prerequisite because without a knowledge of the rates of women's authorship and gender issues articles in the counselor preparation literature, scholarly discourse on specific gender issues remains contextless. Thus, through this study we aim to provide a historical grounding for dialogue on gender issues in counseling.

In order to build such a ground, we focused on two issues related to gender in counselor preparation. First, we examined women's authorship rates in Counselor Education and Supervision (CES), the official journal of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. Second, we examined the publication rate of articles in CES that dealt specifically with gender issues.

In CES, there have been three prior analyses of the journal's articles. Gade

and Zaccaria (1966) analyzed Volumes 1 through 4. The two did not address the foci of the present study. White (1983) examined women's authorship rates in Volumes 1, 6, 11, 16, and 21. The women's authorship percentages for these volumes were 12, 12, 7, 25, and 34, respectively (White, 1983).

Hosie (1986) and White (1983) both conducted topic frequency counts of the CES literature. The White (1983) article's gender related topic was titled "Women/Sex Equity." Hosie (1986) labeled his gender related topic "Sex Equity". Neither researcher presented any criteria for an article to be counted in their gender related category. Overall, the rate for either gender related category did not exceed 2% of the total number of articles analyzed.

The purpose of this study was to explicate the rates of women's authorship and gender issues publications in the main journal of the counselor preparation literature. The specific null hypotheses were that there would be no decadal differences in the above noted rates over the publication history of the journal.

Method

Scope of Review

Women's authorship and gender issues articles were tracked from Volumes

0 through 32. There were 131 issues published over this span of volumes. The following types of articles were excluded from the analyses: book reviews, business and financial reports, messages, editorials, indices, calls, directories, authorship guidelines, statements of ownership, constitutions, by-laws, letters, and poems.

Category Definition

Women's authorship was determined by first name. This methodology has been employed by other studies appearing in CES (White, 1983; White & Hernandez, 1988). In cases of joint authorship, authorship was split numerically so that the total for an article equaled one. For example, if two of the three authors were women, the assigned women's authorship value was .66.

Two types of articles were designated as having a gender focus. The first type were quantitative studies where sex was one of the variables and there was a consideration of this variable in the discussion section. Stranges and Riccio (1970) is an example of an article that just met the threshold for such classification. The two did note the gender differences they found in their research on counselee preferences for counselors, but they did not address the implications of such differences for counselor preparation. The second type were theory or practical

application articles that focused significantly on gender issues. Moore and Nelson's (1981) paper on a workshop model for developing awareness of sex role bias in counseling students is a good example of such an article. Articles concerning gender issues were categorized based on content like Hosie (1986) rather than by article title like White (1983).

Classification Protocol

Classification of both author's sex and gender issues articles was conducted by the authors of this study. We piloted the classification protocol on three volumes (Volumes 5, 7, & 8). Unclear aspects of this protocol were discussed and the protocol was revised. The remaining volumes were divided between the two authors for analysis. Each author also corrected the ratings of the other author in order to catch clerical errors and ensure strict protocol adherence.

Results

Over the span of the 33 volumes studied, 1351 articles were identified using the classification protocol outlined in the previous section (see Figure 1). Women authored 243.64 of these articles (18%). Articles meeting the gender issues criteria appeared 53 times in CES (4%). The mean per decade for both the

women's authorship and gender issues categories varied over the history of the journal (see Table 1). Decadal differences in women's authorship and gender issues publication rates were analyzed by means of one-way analysis of variance.

For this study, an alpha level of .05 was used for all statistical tests. One-way analysis of variance revealed significant decadal differences in women's authorship $F(3, 127) = 15.0616$, $p < .05$. Given this finding, a least-significant difference (LSD) test for post hoc multiple comparisons was conducted. Women's authorship was significantly higher in the 1970's, 1980's, and 1990's in comparison to the 1960's. Also, the rate for the 1980's was significantly higher than the rate for the 1970's.

One way analysis of variance also exposed significant decadal differences in the publication of gender issues articles $F(3, 127) = 2.7269$, $p < .05$. An LSD test for post hoc multiple comparisons revealed a significant jump in the gender issues publication rates of the 1970's, 1980's, and 1990's over the 1960's. There were no other significant decadal increases.

Discussion

This study examined decadal differences in the rate of women's authorship

and the rate of gender issues publications in the key counselor preparation journal. The results indicated that there have been continued significant increases in women's authorship of CES articles. Moreover, it is important to note that these rates have increased even though there has been a significant drop in the total number of articles published per issue since Volume O (Dykeman & Doyle, 1994).

On the other hand, disturbing gaps remain in counselor preparation research. For example, there has been no significant rise in the gender issues publication rates since the 1970's! This lack of difference defies logical explanation. The impact of gender on human development has been well known and documented for more than a decade (Gilligan, 1982). Also, as noted in the introduction, the majority of both clients and service providers in the counseling profession are now women. A greater focus on gender issues in counselor training and supervision is necessary if counselors are to remain an efficacious source of mental health services.

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Table 1

Mean Number of Articles per Issue by Decade

Decade	Gender Issues	Women's Authorship	Total
1960s	0.14	1.04	10.94
1970s	0.51	1.69	12.34
1980s	0.48	2.45	9
1990s	0.57	2.21	5.6

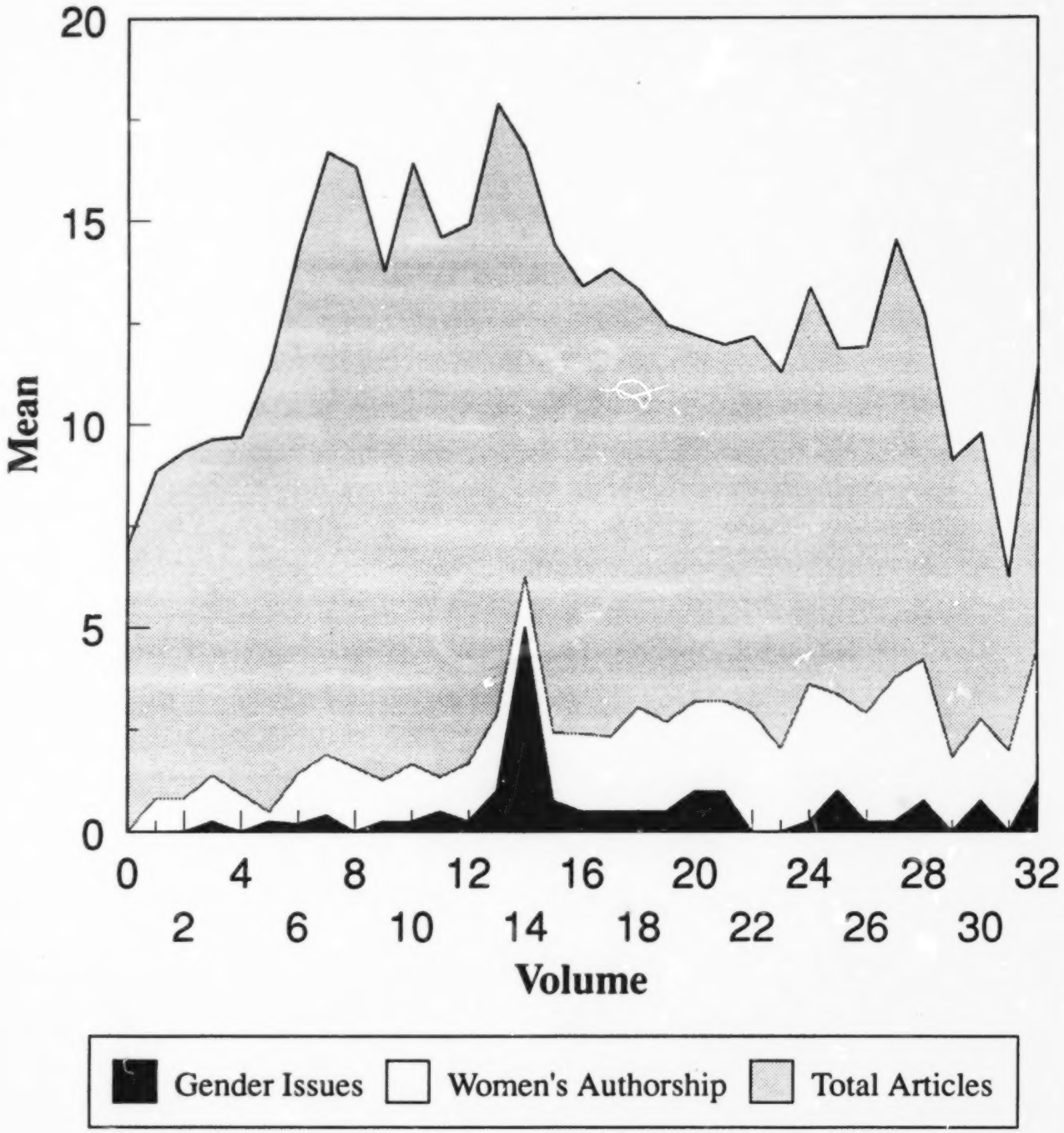
20
15
10
5
0
Mean
0
4
8
12
16
20
24
28
32
2
6
10
14
18
22
26
30
Volume
Gender Issues
Women's Authorship
Total Articles

Figure Caption

Figure 1. Means for gender issues, women's authorship, and total publications by volume.